CHAPTER NO. 758

HOUSE BILL NO. 2653

By Representatives Cooper, Tidwell

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 2693

By Senator Cohen

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 29, Part 1, relative to restoration of voting rights for non-violent offenders.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 39, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section 40-39-1___.

- (a) When any non-violent offender who was convicted of an infamous crime is granted final release from incarceration or discharged from parole, probation, pre-trial or judicial diversion or community correction supervision, the sentencing court, department of correction and board of probation and parole are urged to have the official charged with processing and effectuating such person's release or discharge provide such person with information explaining the restoration of citizenship rights procedure.
- (c) For purposes of this section "non-violent offender" means a person convicted of a felony that is not defined as a "violent offense" by § 40-35-120(b).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 10, 2004

HOSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER

JOHN S. WILDER

APPROVED this 24th day of May 2004

PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR